

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON WILDLIFE & FRESHWATER FISH MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, September 24, 2019

Richardson & Robbins Building Auditorium

89 Kings Highway, Dover, Delaware

Phone 302-739-9912, FAX 302-739-6157

ADVISORY COUNCIL

1. Edward A. Montague, Chair (Absent)
2. Garrett Grier, Jr., Vice Chair
3. Raymond F. Burris
4. Neal Dukes
5. Nathan Hudson (Absent)
6. Joe C. Johnson
7. Steven Kendus
8. Dale R. Scuse
9. F. Thomas Unruh

DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE

1. Rob Hossler
2. Justyn Foth
3. Kayla Harvey
4. Captain Brian Pollock
5. Dana Patone

PUBLIC

13 Visitors

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Grier at 7:00 pm.

Agenda Item 1. Approval of Minutes (Chairman).

A motion was made by Councilman Burris, seconded by Councilman Unruh and the Council voted unanimously to approve the August 27, 2019 meeting minutes as written.

Agenda Item 2. Atlantic Flyway Council 2020-2021 Migratory Gamebird Recommendations (Rob Hossler).

Rob Hossler, wildlife administrator, provided a summary of the Atlantic Flyway Council's recommendations for the 2020/21 migratory gamebird seasons. The 2020/21 waterfowl bag limits and season frameworks are proposed to be similar to the 2019/20 season with a liberal regulations package for ducks consisting of a 60-day season with a daily bag limit of 6 ducks, including no more than 2 mallard (1 hen), 3 wood duck, 2 black duck, 1 pintail, 2 canvasback, 1 scaup, 2 redhead, 6 teal, 6 shoveler, 6 gadwall, 6 wigeon, 6 goldeneye, 6 ring-neck duck, 6 bufflehead, 6 ruddy duck, 4 scoter, 4 eider, 4 long-tailed duck, 2 hooded merganser, 1 mottled duck and 1 fulvous whistling duck, with no harlequin duck harvest allowed. Possession limits are proposed to be three times the daily limit. Also recommended is a proposed 30-day Canada goose season with a 1 bird bag limit. All other proposed seasons for migratory gamebirds in 2020/21 are similar to those in 2019/20.

Agenda Item 3. Tundra Swan Permit Lottery (Justyn Foth).

Justyn Foth, Ph.D., waterfowl and gamebird biologist, provided an overview of the 2019 Tundra Swan Permit Lottery for the pilot Tundra Swan hunting season.

A total of 84 permits were issued for the 2019/20 tundra swan hunting season, 5 of which were issued to individuals through eligible waterfowl conservation organizations and the remaining permits issued through a random lottery run by the Division. The number of permits issued to non-residents was 13, equal to the percentage of non-resident hunters as determined from the most recent year for which hunting sales were certified (16.06% of licensed hunters were non-residents).

The Tundra Swan season will include two youth hunt days, as well as the statewide season from October 25, 2019 – January 31, 2020. The permits were issued and are limited to individual applicants, which are allowed to harvest one Tundra swan/season.

AGENDA FOR THE 10/29/2019 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Council asked the Division of Fish & Wildlife to provide the agenda for the next meeting, with the Division subsequently developing the following agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes from June 25, 2019 Council Meeting (Chairman).
2. New ePermitting Licensing System Preview (Karen McNamara).

3. Straight-Walled Pistol-Caliber Rifles
(Delaware State Sportsmen's Association).
4. Directors Update (David E. Saveikis).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Kendus, seconded by Councilman Burris and unanimously approved by the Council to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 pm.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dana Patone".

Dana Patone
Recording Secretary